

MASSACHUSETTS FIRES IN 1999

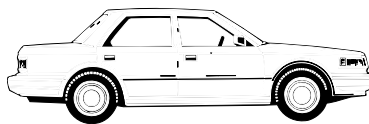
28,976 Fires - Up 12% From 1998

53 Civilian Deaths
496 Civilian Injuries
8 Fire Service Deaths
1,185 Fire Service Injuries
\$186 Million in Property Damage
4,307 Reported Arsons



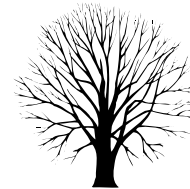
Structure Fires

10,595 Fires - Down 1%
43 Civilian Deaths
430 Civilian Injuries
7 Fire Service Deaths
1,073 Fire Service Injuries
\$148 Million in Property Damage
886 Arsons Reported



Motor Vehicle Fires

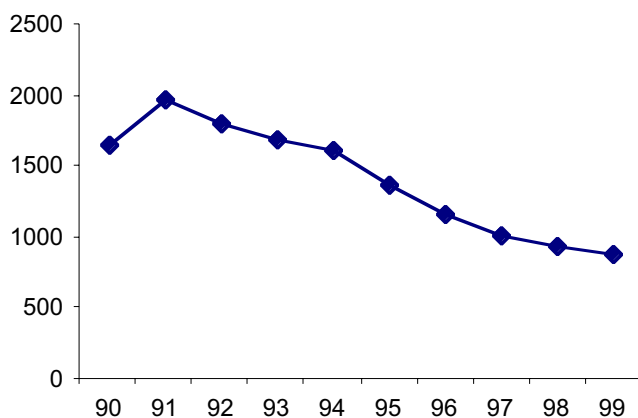
6,011 Fires - Up 8%
4 Civilian Deaths
21 Civilian Injuries
48 Fire Service Injuries
\$22 Million in Property Damage
818 Arsons Reported



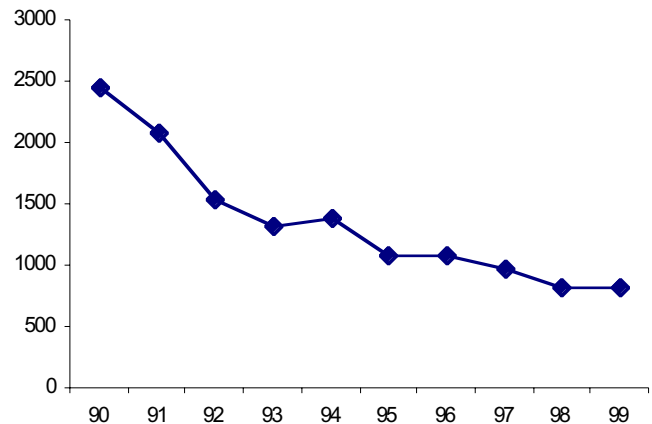
Other Fires

12,370 Fires - Up 28%
6 Civilian Deaths
45 Civilian Injuries
1 Fire Service Death
64 Fire Service Injuries
\$15 Million in Property Damage
2,603 Arsons Reported

Structure Arson by Year



Motor Vehicle Arson by Year

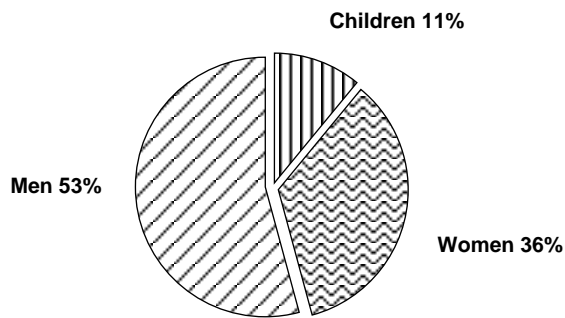


Structure arson fell 6% and motor vehicle arson fell 2% from 1998 to 1999. Since 1985, motor vehicle arson has fallen 84%. Since the Burned Motor Vehicle Reporting Law took effect in 1987, owners of burned vehicles must personally file a report at the fire station before they can collect on their fire insurance. Vehicle arson began dropping at that time.

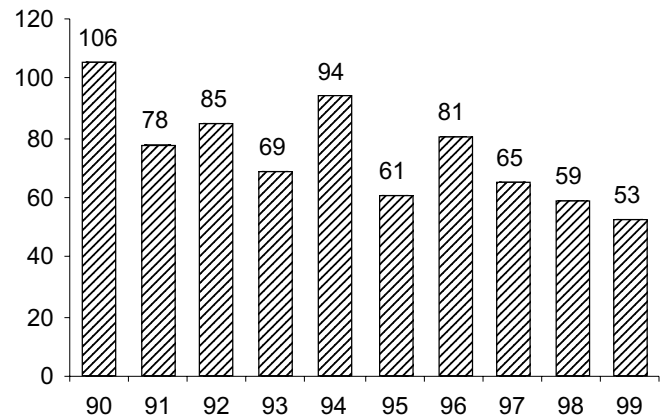
For statistical purposes, a fire is considered arson when the ignition factor is listed as incendiary or suspicious.

MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DEATHS IN 1999

Civilian Fire Deaths

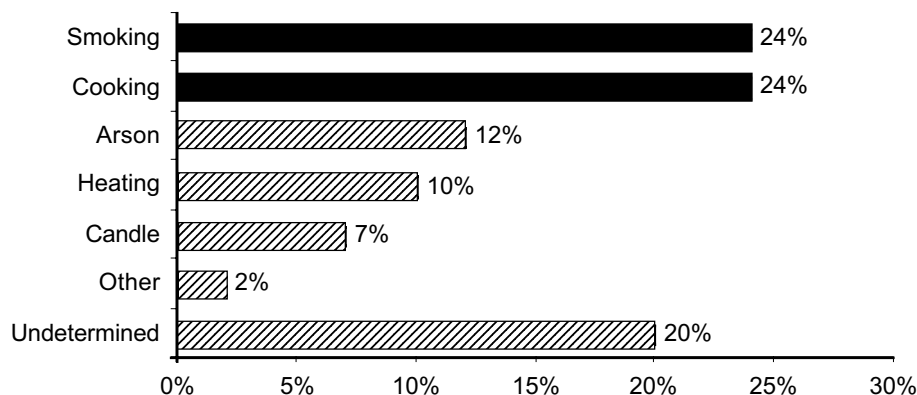


Fire Deaths by Year



- 40 fatal fires killed 53 civilians - 28 men, 19 women and 6 children - in 1999. 8 firefighters died in fires in 1999.
- 1 in 3 fatal fire victims was an older adult (over 65).
- Records indicate civilian fire deaths in 1999 were at their lowest since World War II.
- Nearly 80% of the civilian fire victims died in their homes.
- Over 1/2 of the fire deaths in people's homes occurred in homes with no working smoke detectors. Either no detectors were installed or the detectors did not operate.
- Improper or unsafe use of smoking materials and cooking fires tied to be the leading cause of residential structure fire deaths; each caused almost 1/4 of residential structure fire deaths.

Causes of Residential Structure Fire Deaths



Test your smoke detector and plan your escape!
Fire doesn't wait!

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